

ARKANSAS

Park Operational Base Summary: The table below shows the annual park operating base for all parks within this state. Park operational base funds are supplemented by as yet undetermined amounts of project funding from regional or servicewide-managed programs, such as cyclic maintenance, the Natural Resources Preservation Program, and the Drug Enforcement Program.

If a park is in more than one state, the park is included in each of the appropriate state tables. The full operating base is shown; no attempt has been made to split the park operating base amount between two or more states.

Congress'l District Park Units	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Uncontrol Changes	FY 2003 Program Changes	FY 2003 Estimate
01 Arkansas Post Natl Memorial	533	711	7	-3	715
01,03 Buffalo National River	3,758	3,841	60	449	4,350
03 Fort Smith NHS	762	781	9	-4	786
04 Hot Springs NP	3,167	3,364	49	-21	3,392
02 Little Rock Central High School NHS	297	638	1	-1	638
03 Pea Ridge NMP	650	660	8	-3	665

For FY 2003, Program Changes include increases contained in park operations and for counter-terrorism activities. Program Changes are reduced for travel and associated costs by implementing management reforms to achieve savings.

This table does not include programs from other appropriations such as General Management Plans, Land Acquisition, Line Item Construction, Federal Lands Highway Program, and Historic Preservation Fund State Grants. Information on the distribution of funds in these programs is outlined on the next page. There are separate sections on General Management Plans and the Trails Management Program.

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Buffalo National River, Arkansas

\$475,000 to Provide Visitor Services and Facilities During Shoulder Seasons

Funding is requested to keep campground and river facilities open during the shoulder periods in the spring and fall. Recreational activities such as hiking, horseback riding, floating and camping have increased during the shoulder seasons. This increase has created a growing demand for visitor services and maintenance. Funding would be used to provide interpretive programs throughout the extended visitor season and for the expansion of the educational outreach program. Additional ranger patrols would detect and reduce incidents of resource damage and visitor conflicts. Maintenance services, such as mowing, trash pickup, and restroom cleaning, would also be extended to meet visitor needs. These actions would result in a safer and more satisfactory visitor experience for park visitors.

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(dollars in thousands)

PROGRAMS NOT INCLUDED IN PARK BASE:

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLANS (See GMP section for further information)

Park Area

Type of Project

Buffalo NR

Potential New Start

Pea Ridge NMP

Ongoing Project

LAND ACQUISITION (see attached)

Park Area

Remarks

Funds

Little Rock Central High Sch NHS

2 acres

\$130

CONSTRUCTION: LINE ITEM CONSTRUCTION

None

PROPOSED FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY PROGRAM

None

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND: STATE GRANTS

State apportionment: \$616

STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS

Proposed state apportionment: \$1,801

(Does not include \$48,600,000 for Cooperative Conservation Initiative, which will be distributed to the states through national competition.)

Land Acquisition and State Assistance/Federal Land Acquisition

Fiscal Year 2003 National Park Service Federal Land Acquisition Program

Program or Park Area: **Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site**

National Park Service Land Acquisition Priority (FY 2003): Priority No. 23

Location: In the city of Little Rock, Arkansas

State/County/Congressional District: State of Arkansas/Pulaski County/Congressional District No.2

Land Acquisition Limitation Amount Remaining: There is no limitation.

Cost Detail: The estimated annual operating costs associated with this acquisition are \$0.070 million.

Date	Acres	Total Amount
FY 2003 Request	2	\$130
Future Funding Need	0	0

The total amount includes the cost of title, appraisal, environmental site assessment, acquisition, and relocation assistance.

Improvements: Commercial structure

Description: P.L. 105-356 established the national historic site to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit, education, and inspiration of present and future generations, Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and its role in the integration of public schools and the development of the civil rights movement in the United States.

Natural/Cultural Resources Associated with Proposal: The admission to the school of nine African-American students, known as the "Little Rock Nine", was the most prominent national example of the implementation of the Supreme Court's 1954 decision mandating an end to the segregation of public schools. One of the tracts proposed for acquisition contains the Ponder Drug Store building and is within the boundary of the national historic site. The structure played an important role in the events of 1957, in that one of the Little Rock Nine, Elizabeth Eckford, attempted to enter the building while being pursued by an angry crowd.

Threat: Continued ownership of the Ponder Drug Store building is creating an economic hardship for the owners who have indicated willingness to sell to the United States to benefit the national historic site. The building has suffered from neglect and doubtless will continue to do so if not acquired by the United States. Acquisition would permit the National Park Service to restore the building exterior to its 1957 appearance and preserve the historic streetscape.

Need: The funds requested would be used to acquire the tract containing the historic Ponder Drug Store building and an additional vacant lot needed for construction of a new visitor center for the national historic site. *Acquisition of these lands will contribute to the NPS GPRA Goal 1a Preserve Natural and Cultural Resources, in particular Goal 1a7 Preserve the cultural landscape, and to Goal 1la Provide for Visitor Safety and Satisfaction.*

Interaction with Landowners and Partners: The owners of both tracts have expressed strong interest in selling their properties to the United States in order to benefit the National Historic Site. The acquisitions are supported by the local community and by the Congressional delegation.